



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

FORMER CFO FOR KCMC CHILD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION SENTENCED FOR BRIBERY AND MONEY LAUNDERING

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that the former Chief Financial Officer for a non-profit agency which operates 11 government-assisted child care centers in the Kansas City metro area was sentenced today for bribery and money laundering in a scheme through which he received more than \$200,000 in illegal kickbacks on renovation work for the agency's centers.

Andrew P. Nyakatura, 46, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced this morning by Senior U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright to four years, three months in prison without parole. The court also ordered **Nyakatura** to pay \$885,416.98 in restitution to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Nyakatura is the former Controller and Chief Financial Officer of KCMC Child Development Corporation, Inc., 2104 East 18th Street, Kansas City, Mo. KCMC administers Head Start programs on behalf of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at 11 locations in Cass, Clay, Jackson and Platte counties. **Nyakatura** was employed by KCMC from June 3, 1996, until he resigned on April 6, 2001.

On February 21, 2002, **Nyakatura** pleaded guilty to one count of federal program bribery and one count of money laundering. By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Nyakatura** admitted that between September 1997 and March 2000, he schemed to illegally receive more than \$200,000 in the form of kickbacks for approving approximately \$1.1 million in renovation and remodeling projects at various child care centers operated by KCMC. The restitution ordered by the court, Graves explained, represents the amount of overpayments by KCMC.

(MORE)

KICKBACK SCHEME

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According to Graves, **Nyakatura** also admitted in his plea agreement that he engaged in a series of illegal financial transactions that were designed to conceal the nature and source of the illegally obtained funds.

Under the terms of a plea agreement, federal prosecutors dismissed the remaining charges against **Nyakatura** at today's sentencing hearing. The court ordered **Nyakatura** to surrender himself to authorities to begin serving his prison sentence on September 16, 2002.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney J. Daniel Stewart. It was investigated by the FBI, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, and the Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
